

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A CE consumer apparatus comprising a gateway for use between a home network and an external data network, wherein:
 - the apparatus has an access point device for the home network;
 - the access point device has a first functionality that enables broadband wireless data communication to the home network; and
 - the access point device has a second functionality that serves as a user-interface.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access point device is connected to the apparatus via a cable.
3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access point device comprises an IR receiver.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access point device comprises a visual status indicator.
5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access point comprises a camera.
6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access point comprises a microphone.
7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the access point comprises a FLASH memory card slot.
8. For use with a CE consumer apparatus that comprises a gateway for being used between a home network and an external data network: an access point device for the home network, wherein:
 - the access point device has a first functionality that enables broadband wireless data communication to the home network; and
 - the access point device has a second functionality that serves as a user-interface.
9. The device of claim 8, wherein the access point device is connectable to the apparatus via a cable.

10. The device of claim 8, comprising an IR receiver.
11. The device of claim 8, comprising a visual status indicator.
12. The device of claim 8, comprising a camera.
13. The device of claim 8, comprising a microphone.
14. The device of claim 8, comprising a FLASH memory card slot for digital still images